

the arena of public service and civic involvement he had a virtue that is, unfortunately, too rare: initiative.

A teacher who retired early and moved to Bonsall 14 years ago, Dwight served on the Bonsall School Board from 1990 to 2002. He also took on active roles with the Fallbrook Healthcare District Board and the Bonsall Chamber of Commerce.

Last September Dwight organized a picnic in honor of local firefighters, rescue workers, and law enforcement personnel which I attended. This event was one of the many ways that Dwight would say thank you to his neighbors and strengthen community pride in Bonsall.

My fondest memories of Dwight were observing his enthusiasm and optimistic approach to challenges. When we agreed on a community need, no one worked harder than Dwight to do what was needed. On the occasions when we disagreed, he always took a constructive approach to find common ground and, above all, the best solution for the community.

Dwight Thompson is survived by his wife Beverly, four children, and four grandchildren. My prayers are with them.

Dwight Thompson's legacy in Bonsall and the lives he touched with his generosity, public service, and care for others lives on in the community he helped build and the hearts of those who knew him. A model citizen and loyal friend, Dwight used his freedom as an American to participate in the administration of public affairs simply because he had a gift to share and a genuine concern for others.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVE KULCHIN

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2003

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to honor Dave Kulchin completing his term as the president of the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club on June 30, 2003. Dave is a dedicated community leader who has contributed enormously and made a tremendous difference to the Rotary Club and the citizens of Carlsbad.

Under Dave's leadership, the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club accomplished many achievements. They sponsored a Rotary Youth Leadership Awareness Conference RYLA, for high school students to reinforce ethical values and to train students in the Principles of Leadership. The Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club provided and delivered food, clothing, blankets, and other items to the homeless at the La Posada Homeless Shelter in Carlsbad. Also, Dave led the Oktoberfest fundraiser which raised over \$12,000 for both the Carlsbad Women's Resource Center and the Carlsbad Boys and Girls Club.

In addition to his accomplishments as a Rotarian, Dave Kulchin also volunteers his time to serve on the Executive Board of the Carlsbad Boys and Girls Club, was past chairman of the Hospice of North County, served on the Executive Board of Scripps Hospital, was past president and founder of the North County Personnel Association and serves as an elected official on the Leucadia County Water District Board.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Dave Kulchin for all the dedication and contributions he has made to the Rotary Club and the citizens of Carlsbad.

CONGRATULATING THE WESTERN PRELACY OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America on the occasion of celebrating 30 years of dedication and service to the needs of the Armenian Church and Community. The 30th Anniversary Banquet will be held at the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church Social Hall in Fresno, California on Saturday, May 17th.

In 1973, the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America (WPAACA) was established. The purpose of the Prelacy is to preserve the traditions and the cultural values of the Armenian Church and provide spiritual, religious, and cultural services to the Armenian Community. WPAACA is a non-profit organization that depends upon the benevolent donations of philanthropists in the community. Their field of services extends throughout California, and provides support and spiritual assistance to Armenian communities in other regions of the Western United States such as Utah, Oregon, Colorado, and Nevada as well.

The Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Churches is under the jurisdiction of the Catholicosate of the Holy See of the Great House of Cilicia. The Catholicosate was established during the 11th century in Cilicia and later relocated in the coastal city of Antelias, Lebanon. This occurred after the Armenian Genocide and the persecutions of the Armenians from their homeland in Armenia and Cilicia.

Functioning under the guidance of the Western Prelacy, there are eight churches and over a dozen schools. The oldest of the churches is the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church in Fresno, California. It was founded in 1900 as the first Armenian Apostolic Church in the Western United States. The Armenian community is actively involved in the religious, educational, and spiritual activities of the Prelacy, churches, and schools of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America on the occasion of their 30th year anniversary. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Prelacy many years of continued success.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TAIWAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2003

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Republic of China as it prepares to celebrate President Chen Shui-bian's third anniversary in office. President Chen

should be commended for his leadership in guiding Taiwan through many challenges and maintaining prosperity and democracy for its 23 million people on the island.

Despite economic downturns in many parts of the world, Taiwan has maintained a healthy, albeit slow, growth. Taiwan's substantive relations with nearly all the free countries have been steadily improving, especially with Taiwan's recent accession to the World Trade Organization. However, much more needs to be done to expand Taiwan's international presence.

For years, I have been sympathetic to Taiwan's goals of obtaining a greater international presence. With the recent outbreak of SARS, I feel even stronger that Taiwan needs to be included in any and all international medical cooperation and collaboration. With the spread of SARS, the importance of public health information disclosure is paramount. As Secretary of State Colin Powell recently said, "infectious disease knows no borders and requires an effective and coordinated response at local, national and international levels." Time has come for Taiwan to be included in all World Health Organization activities. For a start, I believe the United States should strongly support Taiwan's efforts to obtain observer status at The World Health Assembly this May.

Moreover, I believe we should support Taiwan's bid to be a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in view of the fact there are 270 direct flights a week between the United States and Taiwan. There is no doubt in my mind that we should give Taiwan all the support, including Taiwan's bid to return to the United Nations.

On the eve of President Chen Shui-bian's third anniversary in office, I join my colleagues in wishing President Chen all the best.

THE CONTINUING PLIGHT OF ROMA IN GREECE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the European Roma Rights Center, ERRC, and Greek Helsinki Monitor, GHM, have just published a report on the human rights situation of Roma in Greece. "Cleaning Operations: Excluding Roma in Greece" documents the plight of the inhabitants of the Romani settlement of Aspropyrgos, outside Athens, and details the problems of Roma across the country. Illustrated with stark scenes of bulldozed homes and marginalized and neglected Romani communities, a picture disturbing in more ways than one has been painted.

In particular, the report supports the accusation that the Government of Greece has used preparations for the 2004 Olympics as justification for the campaign to uproot Roma. Ironically, Greece currently holds the presidency of the European Union.

The Helsinki Commission, which I cochair, held hearings in 1998, 2000, and in 2002 focused on the human rights problems faced by Roma with the intent of raising the awareness of these problems amongst the governments of the OSCE participating States. The plight of the Roma has also been addressed in specific